National Policy on Biogas Technology

2419. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Biogas can meet 90 per cent of the cooking energy needs of the projected 660 million people of Rural India in the year 2,000;

(b) whether it is also a fact that non-commercial sources of energy like firewood, crop wastes and cattle dung can supply about 90 per cent of India's cooking energy; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to conserve the natural resources and check the environmental pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) According to the estimates of Advisory Board on Energy, published in a report entitled "Towards a Perspective on Energy Demand and Supply in India in 2004/05" in May, 1985, biogas can meet cooking energy needs of about 10 to 18 per cent of the projected rural population in the country in the year 2004/05 A.D.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Steps taken by Government to conserve natural resources and check environmental pollution include provisions for technical and training support, financial assistance including central subsidy, publicity and awareness raising compaigns, etc. for promoting biogas plants and improved chulhas under two separate Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes. About 20 lakh family type biogas plants and 170 lakh improved chulhas have already been set up in the country. For 1994-95, a target of setting up of 2 lakh family type biogas plants and 26 lakh improved chulhas has been allocated to State Governments and agencies.

Training to candidates for Civil Services Exams

2420. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates from Gujarat who have qualified Civil Services Examinations during the last three years and have been selected, year-wise;

(b) what has been the representation from the State of Gujarat in the National average of the said examinations during the period and

(c) whether Government propose to provide training facilities for Civil services examinations in Gujarat to facilitate the youths of that State in view of the backwardness in education in the tribal belt of the Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) In view of the Constitutional provisions of equality of opportunity for entering into Government service, State/region wise representation in the All India Services is not monitored centrally.

(c) Education being a State Subject, it is for the Government of Gujarat to provide adequate facilities for the coaching of aspirants from Gujarat for appearing in Civil Services Examination.

Norms for Officials for contesting elections in Sports Bodies

2421. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have revised norms for officials contesting elections in any National Level Sports Bodies; and